

MARCUS MITCHELL  
525 Northampton Drive  
Shreveport, Louisiana 71106

11 FEBRUARY 2022

LOUISIANA ETHICS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM  
P.O. Box 4368  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Dear Board,

The intent of this correspondence is to request a formal advisory opinion regarding a matter of post-public service employment of which I am the subject and requestor. The details of this matter are as follows:

From Feb 2009 through November 2021, I was employed by the Shreveport Police Department as a sworn law enforcement officer. During that employment, I was assigned in the roles of patrolman (Oct 2009 – July 2011), crime scene investigator (July 2011 – Jan 2018), fugitive warrants officer (Jan 2018 – Sep 2019), and as the department's chief administrative assistant (Sep 2019 – Nov 2021).

In my role as chief administrative assistant, my primary duty was to assist the deputy chief of police in the preparation, maintenance, and processing of the department's budget. In this role, I did **not** possess independent authority to make purchases and acquisitions, nor to commit the department to any contractual agreements for services or materials. All such matters were directed by either the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief of Police, and my office merely served as the processing center for any such matter. Secondary duties that I performed were: supervision of departmental payroll processing, monitoring departmental grants programs and budgets, and oversight of non-sworn civilian employees.

Throughout the entirety of my employment with the Shreveport Police Department, I operated several private businesses in the retail, food service, professional services industries. In November 2021, I left the Shreveport Police Department and worked only for my own private companies. Shortly after leaving the Shreveport Police Department, one of my companies entered into contract with a Tennessee-based traffic enforcement firm operating under the name, "Blue Line Solutions, LLC" (BLS). BLS contracted my company, to provide public information and education (marketing and advertising) services for its Louisiana-based projects.

As of the date of this correspondence, BLS is actively seeking an opportunity to contract with the city of Shreveport. However, currently, no contract has been accepted or approved. If successful, BLS would be providing a traffic enforcement service to the city of Shreveport. As I understand the basics of the contract, there is no financial obligation on the part of the City. The effective value of the contract as it relates to public/taxpayer funds is zero. The contract merely allows BLS to install its equipment on city thoroughfares, and creates a revenue sharing model between the City and BLS.

It is my understanding that since the services (marketing, advertising, and public information distribution) that my company provides to BLS are in no way identical or related to any regular or assigned duties of my position as Chief Administrative Assistant with the Shreveport Police Department, my continued contracting with BLS in this capacity is not a violation of ethics law and/or statute. In order to ensure that my understanding is proper and that all parties are operating well within the standards and guidelines set forth by your office, I hereby request your formal opinion and/or guidance on this matter.

Should you require any additional information or documentation, please let me know. I appreciate your time in review this request and I look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marcus Mitchell', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Marcus Mitchell  
(318) 573-6562

## Tracy Barker (Ethics)

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**From:** LaToya Jordan  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 3:15 PM  
**To:** Tracy Barker (Ethics)  
**Subject:** FW: Request for Advisory Opinion | Re: Marcus Mitchell, City of Shreveport, Blue Line Solutions  
**Attachments:** EthicsBoard\_AORequest.pdf

See the attached and below. Marcus Mitchell emailed me his request for an advisory opinion.



**LaToya D. Jordan, Esq.**  
*Staff Attorney*  
The Louisiana Board of Ethics

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**From:** Marcus Mitchell [mailto:marcus.mitchell@outlook.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** LaToya Jordan <LaToya.Jordan@LA.GOV>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Advisory Opinion | Re: Marcus Mitchell, City of Shreveport, Blue Line Solutions

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**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

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No worries, I actually knew that and did sign the PDF version, but accidentally attached the editable version instead. The signed PDF version is attached here.

Thanks,

Marcus

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**From:** LaToya Jordan <LaToya.Jordan@LA.GOV>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 1:10 PM  
**To:** Marcus Mitchell <marcus.mitchell@outlook.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Advisory Opinion | Re: Marcus Mitchell, City of Shreveport, Blue Line Solutions

Received. I should have said something before (I forgot – I apologize for that), but the request has to be signed. If you could send the same one but with your signature (either scanned or electronic), I will forward it immediately.

Thank you,  
LaToya



**LaToya D. Jordan, Esq.**  
*Staff Attorney*  
The Louisiana Board of Ethics

**From:** Marcus Mitchell [<mailto:marcus.mitchell@outlook.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 12:40 PM  
**To:** LaToya Jordan <[LaToya.Jordan@LA.GOV](mailto:LaToya.Jordan@LA.GOV)>  
**Subject:** Request for Advisory Opinion | Re: Marcus Mitchell, City of Shreveport, Blue Line Solutions

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good afternoon, Latoya,

I was a pleasure to speak with you earlier today. I appreciate your time and the information shared and discussed. Attached you will find a formal request for an advisory opinion from the Board. Please review for suitability and forward for Board review and opinion as necessary.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. I can be reached by email ([marcus.mitchell@outlook.com](mailto:marcus.mitchell@outlook.com)) or by phone at (318) 573-6562.

Best regards,

Marcus

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